

THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY: THE PATTERN OF COUP D'ETAT AND PUBLIC DECEPTION

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"We must begin to recognize history as it is happening to us. We can no longer toy with illusions. Our war adventures in Asia are not related to national security in any rational sense. ... A coup d'etat took place in the United States on November 22, 1963, when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated."

In May 1970, *Computers and Automation* published a 32-page article "The Assassination of President Kennedy: the Application of Computers to the Photographic Evidence" by Richard E. Sprague. The author made the following important statements (among others) which bear on the subject of this article:

(Beginning of Quotation)

Who Assassinated President Kennedy?

On November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas, President John F. Kennedy, while riding in an open limousine through Dealey Plaza and waving to the surrounding crowds, was shot to death. Lee Harvey Oswald, an ex-Marine, and former visitor to the Soviet Union, was arrested that afternoon in a movie theatre in another section of Dallas; that night he was charged with shooting President Kennedy from the sixth floor easternmost window of the Texas School Book Depository Building overlooking Dealey Plaza. This act Oswald denied steadily through two days of questioning (no record of questions and answers was ever preserved). Two days later while Oswald was being transferred from one jail to another, he was shot by Jack Ruby, a Dallas night-club owner, in the basement of the Dallas police station, while millions of Americans watched on television. The commission of investigation, appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, and headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren of the U. S. Supreme Court, published its report in September 1964, and concluded that Oswald was the sole assassin and that there was no conspiracy.

In view of the authority of the Warren Commission, that conclusion was accepted by many Americans for a long time. But the conclusion cannot be considered true by any person who carefully considers the crucial evidence — such as the physics of the shooting, the timing of a number of events, and other important and undeniable facts. In other words, Oswald was not the sole assassin, and there was a conspiracy.

This article will develop that thesis, prove it to be true on the basis of substantial, conclusive evidence, and in particular some analysis of the photographic evidence.

There was in fact a conspiracy. Oswald played a role in the conspiracy, although there is conclusive evidence that on November 22, 1963, he did no shooting at President Kennedy, and that, just as he claimed when he was in the Dallas jail, he was a "patsy." At least three gunmen (and prob-

ably four) — none of whom were in the sixth floor easternmost window of the Texas School Book Depository building where the Warren Commission placed Oswald — fired a total of six shots at President Kennedy.

One of these shots missed entirely; one hit Governor John B. Connally, Jr., of Texas, riding with Kennedy; and four hit President Kennedy, one in his throat, one in his back, and two in his head. (The bulk of the undeniable evidence for these statements about the shots consists of: (a) the physics of the motions of Kennedy and Connally shown in some 60 frames of the famous film by Abraham Zapruder; (b) the locations of the injuries in Kennedy and in Connally; and (c) more than 100 pictures, consisting of more than 30 still photographs and more than 70 frames of movies.)

More than 50 persons were involved in the conspiracy at the time of firing the shots. These persons included members of the Dallas police force (but not all of the Dallas police — and that accounts for some strange events), elements of the Central Intelligence Agency, some anti-Castro Cuban exiles, some adventurers from New Orleans, and some other groups. After the assassination, some very highly placed persons in the United States government became accessories to the crime. In other words, they participated in assiduous concealment of important facts, in shielding the perpetrators of the crime, and in spreading a thick layer of rewritten history (in the manner of George Orwell's famous novel "1984") over the whole crime.

Of course, asserting these statements makes them neither true nor believable. Without very strong evidence, it would be evil to make such statements. As to believability, prior to District Attorney Jim Garrison's trial of Clay Shaw in New Orleans in Feb. and March, 1969, public opinion polls in the United States showed that over 75 percent of the people in the United States believed that there was a conspiracy. The press, radio, and TV almost everywhere in the United States reported Garrison's investigation and the New Orleans trial in a very distorted way. Furthermore, Garrison did not prove to the satisfaction of the New Orleans jury that Clay Shaw was involved in the conspiracy, even though he proved that Shaw knew and met Oswald. The news media of the United States (except for two newspapers in New Orleans) reported the trial in such a way as to show that no conspiracy existed. The media largely succeeded in changing U.S. public opinion, if we judge from the falling off of the poll percentages.

But the United States' media have been proved wrong many times before, and they will be proved wrong again in this case....

But the evidence cited or referred to in this article, and the existing photographic evidence and its analysis, a little of which is published here, establishes the fact of conspiracy. This evidence along with other evidence should and can initialize a major change in the beliefs of the people of the United States. As for beliefs of the people of Europe, it has long been and still is accepted there that President John F. Kennedy was assassinated by a conspiracy....

(End of Quotation)

Now, a year and a half later, we have found no substantial information or evidence which implies that we should publish a correction of any of the above statements, — except that other competent investigators of the assassination do prefer the more conservative statement "at least four shots" to the statement "six shots".

Since that article was published, a number of significant, eye-opening events have taken place. We shall refer specifically to five.

1. The Pentagon Papers

Item One is the publication of "The Pentagon Papers", through the actions of: Daniel Ellsberg (a research associate of Mass. Inst. of Techn.); The New York Times (which initiated the newspaper publication); the U.S. Supreme Court (which approved it); and other persons and organizations.

According to Senator Mike Gravel of Alaska, speaking in the United States Senate:

The Pentagon Papers reveal the inner working of a government bureaucracy — out of control — created to defend this country but now managing an international empire by garrisoning American troops around the world....The papers show that American policy toward Southeast Asia has been characterized by a deception — a deception of the American people and of their representatives in the Congress which has continued for 20 years and which continues today through the present Administration.

The repercussions of this historic action, the publication of the Pentagon Papers, will continue for many years — but they prove conclusively a long continuing policy of deceiving the American people by the actions and statements of the American government.

It is worth noting that Senator Wm. J. Fulbright, the distinguished and often brave Senator heading the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, had the papers in his possession towards the end of 1969 — but did not have what it takes to release them to the press.

2. "Heritage of Stone"

Item 2 in our collection of significant events was the publication of a book by District Attorney Jim Garrison of New Orleans, La., "Heritage of Stone". It was published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, and reviewed in the March, 1971, issue of "Computers and Automation" (p. 45). In this book

Garrison says:

"All superstates engaged in efforts to gain power must maintain extensive intelligence efforts at home. They must seek to maintain control of individuals and ideas lest their international war adventures lose the support of the populace at home. ... The issue is power, immense power ...

"After the United States ascended to the position of the most powerful military nation in history, in the midst of its accumulation of the most effective death machinery of all time, there occurred the accident of the election of a President who regarded the entire human race with compassion. By the time this happened, the cold war had become our major industry, and the Central Intelligence Agency had become the clandestine arm of our military-industrial complex, and, in the process, the most effective assassination machine in the world."

Diligent vs. Careless Investigation

"When an assassination of a national leader is not supported by elements of the government, it is predictable that the government investigation will be effective and relentless. ... All information contributing to the discovery of the whole truth will be welcome ... When the criminals are caught, the machinery of justice will be firm and unpromising.

"... However it is another matter when an assassination is supported by powerful forces within the government. The ... protective guard of the President suddenly will have become curiously impotent, for its operation will be known intimately by the assassins. The assassination apparatus will be extraordinarily effective. Federal investigative agents ... will move like sleepwalkers. High officials reviewing the affair will diligently examine many irrelevant items" — such as Lee Oswald's record of a smallpox vaccination in 1951 — "but will casually overlook the most pertinent evidence relevant to the assassination."

The Cover Story

"In a country with advanced technology for news distribution, the removal of a nation's leader will never be attempted unless those sponsoring the murder feel assured that they will have an effective degree of control over the dissemination of the news. Government control must be at a high enough level to guarantee the subsequent distribution of official news releases encouraging the belief, that however tragic the accident, it was essentially meaningless and all is well. ... Creation of a believable cover for an assassination is routine for an intelligence agency of a major government. The cover story which is initially distributed by the press release creates a degree of acceptance virtually impossible to dislodge. This is the case especially when the official fiction is supported by the pre-arranged activities of a decoy pointing in the direction of a false sponsor of the assassination. The actual events of the assassination become irrelevant. All that remains relevant is the cover story issued to the press and the power to control the investigation and conceal the evidence."

de Gaulle?
Hitler

Understanding of the Forces

"We must begin to recognize history as it is happening to us. We can no longer toy with illusions. Our war adventures in Asia are not related to national security in any rational sense. ... To

understand the forces involved [in the murder of Jack Kennedy] and their motivation is to understand all of the once-mysterious assassinations of the 1960's, which in each instance achieved the elimination of a public figure who opposed our massive military expedition into Asia."

The Link of Assassination to War

"A new political instrument has been created. It provides for the permanent removal of men whose philosophies do not coincide with that of the dominant power structure of the United States. ...Justice is not so blind that it pursues the most powerful forces in the country. Nor is the press so committed to truth that it wants the burden of knowledge of what is happening. ...Sooner or later the relationship of assassination at home and war abroad must come to be understood. ...I have written this book so that the truth about the murder of John Kennedy finally may be brought out for every American to see. ...I have sought to show what has been done to our country by men who believe in solving problems by the use of force. ...I wrote [this book] in the hope that it might illuminate the peril which surrounds us. Welcome to the fight."

3. The Members of the Coup d'Etat Still Have Power

A third significant (though small) piece of evidence showing the extent to which the interests of the members of the coup d'etat still reach, is the contrast between two versions of the review of Garrison's book published in The New York Times in Dec., 1970.

One was printed in the early edition of The New York Times for Dec. 1, 1970; the second version was printed in later editions for Dec. 1, 1970. (See the article "The Central Intelligence Agency and The New York Times" by Samuel F. Thurston in the July 1971 issue of "Computers and Automation," p. 51.)

The first version is entitled "Who Killed John F. Kennedy?" and includes a number of sentences challenging the Warren Commission Report, including "Something stinks about this whole affair." The second version is entitled "The Shaw-Garrison Affair"; and that sentence and the others challenging the Warren report have all been deleted!

4. The Atmosphere 1960-63 in Regard to Assassination

Item Four in our survey is some information that, for want of a better name, we may call "the atmosphere in regard to assassination" in the first few years of President Kennedy's term of office as president, when he (and the CIA) smarted from the ignominious collapse of the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba mounted by the CIA in April 1961.

In I. F. Stone's Biweekly for Sept. 21, 1970, occurs the sentence:

We now learn from the private papers in the John F. Kennedy library that he and former Senator Smathers of Florida on many occasions discussed the feasibility of arranging the assassination of Fidel Castro. The craziest of our mixed-up kids are no crazier than the end-justifies-the-means morality of American imperialism.

I wrote to Mr. Stone for additional information — but he was unable to give me a published reference. Apparently, this evidence is on a tape recording played to reporters that has not been transcribed on to paper.

The "discussions" apparently proceeded further than just discussions. A report by columnist Jack Anderson entitled "CIA Tried Six Times to Assassinate Castro" was published in the Boston Evening Globe of January 18, 1971 (and in a number of other papers including one in Japan):

(Beginning of Quotation)

Locked in the darkest recesses of the Central Intelligence Agency is the story of six assassination attempts against Cuba's Fidel Castro.

For 10 years, only a few key people have known the terrible secret. They have sworn never to talk. Yet we have learned the details from sources whose credentials are beyond question.

The plot to knock off Castro began as part of the Bay of Pigs operation. The intent was to eliminate the Cuban dictator before the motley invaders landed on the island. Their arrival was expected to touch off a general uprising, which the Communist militia would have had more trouble putting down without the charismatic Castro to lead them.

After the first attempt failed, five more assassination teams were sent to Cuba. The last team reportedly made it to a rooftop within shooting distance of Castro before members were apprehended. This happened around the last of February or first of March 1963 ...

To set up the Castro assassination, the CIA enlisted Robert Maheu, a former FBI agent with shadowy contacts, who had handled other undercover assignments for the CIA out of his Washington public relations office. He later moved to Las Vegas to head up billionaire Howard Hughes' Nevada operations.

Maheu recruited John Roselli, a ruggedly handsome gambler with contacts in both the American and Cuban underworlds, to arrange the assassination. The dapper, hawk-faced Roselli, formerly married to movie actress June Lang, was a power in the movie industry until his conviction with racketeer Willie Bioff in a million-dollar Hollywood labor shake-down.

The CIA assigned two of its most trusted operatives, William Harvey and James "Big Jim" O'Connell, to the hush-hush murder mission. Using phony names, they accompanied Roselli on trips to Miami to line up the assassination teams. ...

For the first try, the CIA furnished Roselli with special poison capsules to slip into Castro's food. The poison was supposed to take three days to act. By the time Castro died, his system would throw off all traces of the poison, so he would appear to be the victim of a natural if mysterious ailment.

Roselli arranged with a Cuban, related to one of Castro's chefs, to plant the deadly pellets in the dictator's food. On March 13, 1961, Roselli delivered the capsules to his contact at Miami Beach's glamorous Fontainebleau Hotel.

A couple weeks later, just about the right time for the plot to have been carried out, a report out of Havana said Castro was ill. But he recovered before the Bay of Pigs invasion on April 17, 1961.

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Berkeley (Continued from page 30)

One such happening is the mind-set (and the consequent lying to the people of the United States) held by Lyndon B. Johnson, Robert McNamara, Walter Rostow, McGeorge Bundy, Dean Rusk, and others — all revealed by the Pentagon Papers released by Daniel Ellsberg. Nor does this comfortable view explain many other events that undeniably happened, such as the informing of the FBI (and therefore J. Edgar Hoover) at least several days before November 22, 1963 of the plot to kill President Kennedy in Dallas.

Question 4: Why have not Computers and Automation and its editors aroused opposition from and suppression by the government?

Answer: We are not important yet. As soon as we become as important as District Attorney Jim Garrison of New Orleans, or as the Black Panthers, we can expect the same sort of treatment.

In the meantime, the best strategy to be used against us is ignoring us, on the obvious ground that what we are saying is totally unimportant and not worth attention. Many of our former subscribers, I am sure, feel the same way.

COMPUTERS and AUTOMATION for November, 1971

The Cuban who had sneaked the poison into Havana was never seen again. The CIA, unsure whether the plotters had failed or the poison simply hadn't been strong enough, decided to try again with a more powerful dose. Roselli arranged for triple-strength capsules to be slipped into Castro's food several weeks after the Bay of Pigs. But once again, the plot failed and the conspirators disappeared.

Four more attempts were made on Castro's life, using Cuban assassination teams equipped with high-powered rifles, explosives and two-way radios. At intervals in the dark of night, Roselli personally delivered the teams in twin powerboats to the Cuban shores.

Once, a Cuban patrol boat sank Roselli's boat with a lucky shot but the occupants were quickly fished out of the murky water by the other boat. The assassination teams never got a shot at Castro, although the last group reached a rooftop within range. ...

Roselli, Harvey, O'Connell and company had taken precautions, however, to make sure not even the Cuban recruits knew the CIA was behind the plot. Roselli posed as a representative of big oil interests which sought revenge against Castro expropriating their holdings in Cuba. ...

(End of Quotation)

5. The Zapruder Movie

Item Five in our collection of significant events is the change in the last year and a half in the status of the Zapruder movie, which basically has, in this period, escaped from suppression.

The background story of the Zapruder movie is given again here (excerpted from the article by Richard E. Sprague in "Computers and Automation" for May 1970).

(Beginning of Quotation)

Of all the photographs taken in Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963, when President Kennedy was assassinated, the color movie sequence of some 480 frames taken by Abraham Zapruder is the most important. It shows from the right hand side of the motorcade the entire sequence of events, from President Kennedy rounding the curve from Houston St. into Elm St., through all the shooting, until the big presidential limousine left with the dead president going under the triple overpass off to Parkland Hospital. This film almost by itself, with careful, scientific analysis, establishes the times of five of the shots.

The Warren Commission received the original of the Zapruder film to look at, on loan from Life magazine, which bought it from Zapruder.

From that time on, the film was never publicly shown, but remained in the locked files of Life. But a direct copy of the original was subpoenaed and shown NINE times by Asst. District Attorney Alvin Oser in New Orleans in February 1969, at the trial of Clay Shaw. The judge, the jury, the newspaper reporters, and the spectators in the court room all became convinced that Oser and Garrison had demonstrated a conspiracy to kill President Kennedy.

When one sees and studies in detail the Zapruder film in its clear version and examines the other photographs showing the effects of the shots, one becomes convinced of two statements:

1. There were six shots, of which five hit persons in the Kennedy car; of these five the first went through the throat of President Kennedy; the second struck Kennedy in the back; the third struck Governor Connally in the right shoulder; the fourth and fifth struck President Kennedy nearly simultaneously in the head and blew out his brains. The remaining shot missed and struck a curbstone on Main St.
2. The last of the five shots (coming from the grassy knoll area), and one of the two fatal shots, struck Kennedy from the front and to the right, hurling his head to the left and backwards with great force, in accordance with the laws of physics. (For a scientific analysis, see Six Seconds in Dallas, by J. W. Thompson).

Either one of these statements renders impossible the Warren Commission Report's conclusion, that only three shots were fired, the second one missing entirely and striking the curb of Main St.

Obviously, if there was a conspiracy, it becomes vitally necessary to prevent the American people from seeing the Zapruder film, clear and complete, and especially in motion. For over six years, except in New Orleans, this has been achieved. However, currently, bootleg copies of the Zapruder film are on sale here and there in the United States at prices ranging from \$10 to \$50, available for private and illegal showings, since Life magazine owns the original and has never given permission for copies of the film to be sold. Many of these bootleg copies, because of lack of clarity, do not demonstrate the first statement; but they do demonstrate convincingly the second statement, the backward thrust of President Kennedy's head at the time of the fatal shot.

Life magazine would be able to earn millions of dollars from showing the Zapruder film. In three days of showing the Zapruder film, uncut, clear, and not tampered with, on national television, every person in the United States who watched television could see for himself that more than three shots were fired (which makes the Warren Commission conclusions nonsense) and could see that the fatal shot thrust Kennedy's head backwards with great force (proving that he was hit from the front, and not the back, which also makes the Warren Commission conclusions nonsense).

(End of Quotation)

In the year and a half since May 1970, bootleg copies of the Zapruder film have been shown many, many times — at press conferences, lectures, and other occasions. Life magazine has apparently found itself unable to stop the showings; and has chosen to do nothing, make no stir — express no protest — thus acting once more in the true interest of the members of the coup d'etat.

Deductions and Predictions

The evidence cited above and a good deal more appears to be conclusive that:

- A coup d'etat took place in the United States on November 22, 1963, when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated as a result of a conspiracy;
- Among those who planned that action were many members of the Central Intelligence Agency,

the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Pentagon;

- Among those who assiduously covered up that conspiracy and the fact of the coup d'etat were:

- Lyndon B. Johnson, successor president,
- Allen W. Dulles, former head of the CIA member of the Warren Commission; and
- J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI

The foregoing deductions, like any good theory, enable some predictions to be made:

1. As more and more of the true story of what really happened in the United States government in the 1960's becomes available, the members of the coup d'etat will be identified, and responsibility for the assassination of President Kennedy will be found to lie in a group including Lyndon B. Johnson, Allen W. Dulles, and J. Edgar Hoover.
2. So long as the members of the coup d'etat and their successors remain in control of the Executive Branch of the United States government, the only persons who will be permitted to continue in the office of President of the United States will be persons who are acceptable to the CIA, the FBI, and the Pentagon. Other persons will be eliminated. (Note: Senator Robert Kennedy was not acceptable. Senator Edward Kennedy is not acceptable. Senator George McGovern is not acceptable.)

The basic reason for this present condition in the United States is two-fold.

First, there is an enormous amount of money at stake for the military-industrial complex in the United States. The CIA acts as if it were the intelligent, conscious, organized branch of the military-industrial complex. The military-industrial complex of the United States is receiving over 70 billion dollars of the United States budget per year; and it (or they) will not surrender these billions lightly or willingly.

Second, there exists among these people a mindset of emotionally held beliefs, which justifies any deception, any immoral behavior whatever, and which is expressed in the phrase "the interests of national security" of the United States; but the effective meaning is their own security.

The phrase "national security" nowadays in the United States replaces the dead slogans of "patriotism" or "my country, right or wrong". And the failure of the war in Vietnam and the domestic revolution to it are causing a great deal of trouble to this group.

Of course, the true security of the nation of the United States does not include or require the expenditure of \$10 to \$30 billion a year for war in South East Asia, and the incessant bombing and napalming of the population there, etc., etc., etc.

Only thorough perversion of the thinking of millions of people in the United States, accomplished by essentially controlled mass media, enables this fiction of the "interests of national security" to continue to be believed.

Epilogue — Some Questions and Answers

Question 1: If your deductions are correct, how do you account for the continuance of a democratic form of government in the United States, presidential elections, the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, etc.?

Answer: Essentially, because these democratic forms of government do not make any real difference to the Establishment that is in control of the presidency of the United States. It is the presidency that continues the war in South East Asia, that claims and usurps the power to carry on that war irrespective of the cancellation of the Tonkin Bay Resolution by the U. S. Senate, that operates the Central Intelligence Agency and hides its budget among the budgets of other departments of the U.S. Government, that spends \$395 million a year (according to Defense Secretary Laird testifying in Congress) fighting an undeclared, unauthorized, and illegal war in Laos, that subverts the votes of Congressional senators and representatives with offers like leaving Naval bases open in their constituencies, etc.

And the democratic forms most usefully divert an enormous amount of energy and effort of the people of the U.S. away from the true objective, the real requirement.

Question 2: Why is it appropriate for a professional magazine devoted to the field of computers and data processing, to deal with such a subject as this?

Answer: There are several reasons:

(1) When "the house is on fire", the computer professionals working in the laboratory wing had better help put out the fire, even while they try to go on with "business as usual" in computers.

(2) Most of the press of the United States, and nearly all of radio and TV, engage in very complete coverage of very unimportant subjects (such as sports and consumer goods) and very biased coverage of very important subjects (such as international affairs). Therefore, at least some of the press like CGA should try to cover important subjects with a contrasting bias.

(3) Computer professionals are in our opinion professional information engineers. As professional engineers, they have a responsibility for the truth, in the information they do engineering with. This implies not only truth in data processing (accuracy, completeness, correctness), but also truth in input data, and truth in output data. Otherwise, "garbage in, garbage out".

Question 3: Do you consider that your deductions and your predictions may be wrong?

Answer: Of course. I wish they were wrong, and I hope they will be proved as wrong as bad dreams. It would be far more comfortable for me to believe that no coup d'etat took place, that President Kennedy was not eliminated by a conspiracy, that Senator Kennedy was not shot by a second gunman instead of Sirhan, and that the federal government of the United States is what it claims to be, free, democratic, the servant of the people.

Unfortunately, such a comfortable view does not explain many events that have undeniably happened.

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